Idaho Wolf Management Areas



Wolf management in Idaho is divided into two areas; north and south of Interstate-90. Wolves north of I-90 are considered endangered and managed under the 4-D rule, which is stricter than the 10-J rule. The 10-J rule applies south of I-90 where wolves are considered a threatened non-essential experimental population. Following are guidelines outlining how private citizens can act to protect property and human safety in each management area.

Regulations for Endangered Wolves, North of I-90:

Residents are not allowed to harass or kill wolves on private or federal lands. They are encouraged to contact Fish and Game and USDA Wildlife Services if they suspect wolf and livestock problems and to learn more about wolves in the area and about proactive ways to discourage wolves from harassing or killing livestock.

Anyone can kill a wolf in self defense or defense of another person. Report the incident to Fish and Game within 24 hours.

Regulations for Experimental Wolves, <u>South</u> of I-90:

On Private Land

Landowners, their immediate family members, their employees, or lease holders (for livestock grazing or hunting purposes) can kill a wolf that is biting, wounding or killing or a wolf that is seen actively chasing, molesting or harassing livestock, livestock herding or quarding animals, or domestic dogs:

- No permit is required.
- Report the incident to Fish and Game within 24 hours.
- Physical evidence of the wolf attack or that an attack was imminent is required (for example: injured or dead livestock, broken fences, trampled vegetation, and wolf sign).

Anyone may harass, without injury, wolves that are too close to livestock, herding or guarding animals, or domestic dogs. No permit is required. Report the incident to Fish and Game within seven days.

Anyone can kill a wolf in self defense or defense of others. Report the incident to Fish and Game within 24 hours.

Private land includes all nonfederal lands – fee title, state or county lands, and lands within tribal reservations.

Livestock is defined as cattle, sheep, horses, mules, goats, domestic bison, and herding and guarding animals (llamas, donkeys, and certain breeds of dogs commonly used for herding or guarding livestock).

On Federal Land

Livestock producers or outfitters and guides with an active federal use permit that includes or requires livestock use may kill a wolf that is seen biting, wounding or killing, or a wolf that is seen actively chasing, molesting or harassing, livestock or livestock herding or guarding animals on their active allotment:

- Domestic dogs (pets or hunting dogs) are not included in this provision.
- Hunting dogs are not included even while being used by a licensed outfitter.
- No permit is required.
- Report the incident to Fish and Game within 24 hours.
- Physical evidence of the wolf attack or that an attack was imminent is required (for example: injured or dead livestock, broken fences, trampled vegetation, and wolf sign).

Private recreationists or hunters who do not hold active permits may harass wolves that are too close, but they are not allowed to injure or kill wolves. No permit is required. Report the incident to Fish and Game within seven days.

Anyone can kill a wolf in self defense or defense of others. Report the incident to Fish and Game within 24 hours.

Livestock is defined as cattle, sheep, horses, mules, goats, domestic bison, and herding and guarding animals (llamas, donkeys, and certain breeds of dogs commonly used for herding or guarding livestock).

State and Federal Agency Roles

Fish and Game has the primary responsibility to monitor and manage the wolf population. The agency works with private landowners to provide technical assistance on proactive ways to decrease the risk of wolf-caused losses and conducts research, outreach, law enforcement, and all wolf related management.

USDA Wildlife Services has the primary responsibility to investigate cases of suspected wolf depredations. Contact them if you suspect a wolf-caused loss.

Both agencies work to reduce the potential for losses and to resolve wolf-livestock conflicts where and when they occur, using a variety of nonlethal and lethal management tools. All conflict harassment and lethal control is carried out by agency personnel.

Compensation

The Governor's Office of Species Conservation offers a compensation program for suspected wolf livestock losses. Defenders of Wildlife, a private non-profit organization, offers a compensation program for confirmed and probable wolf losses. Contact them at 208-424-9385 for further information.

Contacts for Idaho Wolf Management

To request compensation for livestock loss:

Governor's Office of Species Conservation: 208-334-2189

Defenders of Wildlife: 208-424-9385; http://www.defenders.org/wolfcomp.html

To report livestock depredations within Idaho: U.S.D.A. Wildlife Services

State Office, Boise 208-378-5077

District Supervisor, Boise 208-378-5077

District Supervisor, Gooding 208-934-4554

District Supervisor, Pocatello 208-236-6921

Wolf Specialist, Arco 208-681-3127

To report information regarding the illegal killing of a wolf or a dead wolf within Idaho:

Any IDFG office;

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Boise 208-378-5333;

Citizens Against Poaching (24hr) 1-800-632-5999

Idaho Fish and Game offices:

Headquarters 208-334-2920

Panhandle Region 208-769-1414

Clearwater Region 208-799-5010

Southwest Region 208-465-8465

McCall Subregion 208-634-8137

Magic Valley Region 208-324-4350

Southeast Region 208-232-4703

Upper Snake Region 208-525-7290

Salmon Region 208-756-2271

Information about wolves in Idaho:

http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/cms/wildlife/wolves/

To report wolf sightings within Idaho:

http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/wildlife/wolves/report.cfm